FBIS DAILY REPORT

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FOUR PCA MEMBERS REPORTEDLY DISAPPEAR

PY030250Y Paris AFP in Spanish 2146 GMT 2 Jun 78 PY

[Text] Buenos Aires, 2 Jun--The pro-Soviet Argentine Communist Party [PCA] charged today that four of its members have disappeared in the last 48 hours. Jesus Mira, legal representative of the Communist Party, identified his missing comrades as Francisco Berdichevsky, psychiatrist; Walter Benjeldorf, member of the World Peace Council; and his son Carlos Lerner, who is an engineer.

Regarding Benjeldorf, the party explained that he is the same person who during a congress recently held in Mexico confronted extreme left organizations due to the distorted image of our country given by these individuals.

The communists emphasized their surprise that these events took place at the beginning of the World Cup, since the party's support for the tournament and its confrontation with those who tried to boycott it is well known.

INTERIOR MINISTRY COMMENTS ON LIST OF MISSING

PY021642Y Paris AFP in Spanish 1352 GMT 2 Jun 78 PY

[Text] Buenos Aires, 2 Jun--The Argentine Interior Ministry today commented on the present situation of 87 persons, reported as missing. These persons were among the 2,515 men and women reported as missing in a list signed by three human rights organizations and published by the local newspaper LA PRENSA on 17 May.

Interior Minister Gen Albano Harguindeguy reported that of the total of the allegedly missing persons, the present situation of 87 persons is known. Nineteen persons are at the disposal of the executive branch under the state of siege now in force in Argentina which allows the detention of a person without trial when the government considers it necessary.

According to the ministry, one woman is under house arrest and four other reportedly missing persons have received the option to leave the country. Twentyfour individuals who were being detained have been released. Four other persons are serving prison sentences after being found guilty or are going to be tried. The remaining 35 persons, according to the ministry, are at home, after being released by their kidnapers.

The list of the missing was signed by the Human Rights Permanent Assembly, the Ecumenical Human Rights Movement and the League for the Rights of Men.

LA NACION ON POTENTIAL OF TRADE WITH PRC

PY031922Y Buenos Aires LA NACION in Spanish 3 Jun 78 p 6 PY

[Editorial: "The Results of the trip to China"]

[Text] A large high-ranking Argentine delegation has visited the PRC. It is obvious that the significance of the trip cannot be measured in terms of our trade with this far-away Asian country, but by the size of this nation, the most populated in the world. [paragraph continues]

Therefore, the results of this mission will not be gaged in terms of tons of wheat sold or new trade connections, or new possibilities to supply ourselves with certain eastern products. No doubt such results must not be disregarded, but they would not have justified all by themselves the high level of the Argentine delegation.

The significance of the visit must be measured in terms of the significance of the two countries involved in the contract. On one side is an immense nation of almost 1 billion inhabitants, and on the other a nation which has become the main world exporter of corn, linseed, meat and other products. The two countries are practically at the same stage in their existence. After an attempt to isolate themselves from the world, of believing in their self-sufficiency and in the advantages of inward growth, China and Argentina have discovered the advantages of opening their markets to the invigorating breath of coalition.

Our 26 million inhabitants are below the estimated margin of error when calculating the population of continental China. However, the food-producing capabilities of our large territory and our jurisdictional sea are a significant factor in view of the needs of such a densely populated country, surrounded by nations of similar characteristics. The potential of trade between the two nations is beyond imagination.

At the same time, we must not neglect political considerations. Now that the peculiarities of "ideological barriers"--which divided the Earth into one, two or more worlds--as well a other ideas are being swept aside by the tide of events. Interdependence is becoming a stark reality. This is not an immature attitude of those who, on the grounds that "our old friends no longer understand us," throw themselves into the sea of for new friendships. It would not be rational to believe that our deep-rooted convictions regarding the role we are called to play in the international framework can be sacrificed as pawns in a chess game to advance a few places. The thing to do is to act like adults in a growingly pluralistic world in which we are acquiring more significance day after day.

It is not a coincidence that one day our economy minister occupies the podium with the most renowned personalities of the Western business world and a few days later is received with large demonstrations in the capital of the most vastly populated communist country in the entire world. This is a logical consequence of the growing system of interrelationships which helps expand the prospects of the South Asians and those who, like ourselves, live in the southern cone of Latin America.

HERALD FAULTS GOVERNMENT'S 'ISOLATIONISM'

FY311656Y Buenos Aires HERALD in English 31 May 78 p 10 FY

[Editorial: "Dropping Out"]

[Text] A strange illusion seems to be taking hold on some of the country's leaders. It is that the United States Government, and independent organizations like Amnesty International, are obsessed with the abuses of human rights that occur in Argentina, but are quite indifferent to what goes on in Hungary, Czechoslovakia, Indochina, Angola, or Vietnam. This assertion--which has now acquired the status of a generally accepted fact among many Argentines--bears little relationship to the truth. Far from being indifferent to what is going on in the communist countries, the governments of the main Western nations and Amnesty International are far more concerned with them than they are about what happens here. [paragraph continues]

In the two most recent newsletters of Amnesty International, for example, there are detailed reports and condemnations of the crimes committed by the authorities in Cambodia (Indochina), Red China, the Soviet Union, East Germany, Poland, Romania, Czechoslovakia, Libya, Ethiopia, and Guinea. There is just one passing reference to Argentina.

The "anti-Argentine" campaign in Western Europe, designed to pressure the governments of the principal countries to stop their soccer teams coming here for the World Cup, failed dismally; not a single Western European player resigned his place in a national team as a result of the propaganda deployed. Britain's left-of-centre Labour government, however, on May 21 cancelled a sports exchange programme with the Soviet Union because of its disapproval of the sentence meted out to a well-known campaigner for human rights, Yuriy Orlov.

As well as imagining that concern in the leading Western countries for the human rights of people in other parts of the world is unfairly focussed on Argentina, too many of the country's leaders--not to speak of much of the national press--appears to think that Western Europe is only just waking up to the dangers of left-wing terrorism. This again is simply not true. The British Government has been grappling for years with the Marxist provisional IRA in Ulster, and other Western European nations--some of which border the Warsaw Pact countries--have also suffered attacks by terrorists who differ little from those suffered here, although on a generally lower scale. The moral and political problems involved, the dangers of being too harsh on the one hand or too soft on the other, have been debated and redebated for years and from many angles. Concern about terrorism has certainly increased as a result of the Moro kidnapping, but it was there for many years before. Or have we forgotten the terrorist attack on the Munich Olympic Games in 1972, or the terrorism, both leftwing and rightwing, that accompanied the French war in Algeria?

There is a dangerous whiff of isolationism floating through the corridors of Government House and other important buildings these days. There seems to be a desire to drop out of the West because: Some U.S. leaders refuse to take government at its face value. But national reorganization cannot be based on self-pity or pique. It must be based on a determination to integrate the nation fully into the Western community once again. The reverse will merely take us back to the road the country chose when the Western democracies were fighting National Socialism, and led to three miserable decades in a stagnant backwater.

BRIEFS

MICROWAVE LINK DEDICATED--Santa Rosa, 31 May--The TV microwave link between Santa Rosa and Bahia Blanca was dedicated today by the governor of La Pampa Province. [Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1558 GMT 31 May 78 PY]

COOPERATION AGREEMENTS APPROVED--Buenos Aires, 31 May--The executive branch has approved the economic and technical agreement between Argentina and Syria signed in Damascus on 2 July 1977 and a similar agreement signed with Lebanon in Beirut on 29 June 1977. [Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0230 GMT 1 Jun 78 PY]

PDC SELECTS VICE PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE

PY031235Y La Paz Radio Panamericana in Spanish 1130 GMT 3 Jan 78 PY

[Text] Remo Di Natale will accompany Gen Rene Bernal Escalante, presidential candidate for the Christian Democratic Party [PDC], in the elections called by the present government for 9 July this year. This news was given Radio Panamericana by Benjamin Miguel, president of that political party, who stated that the decision has been made at a meeting of the PDC top leaders.

Remo Di Natale is one of the founders and the first president of the PDC, which is now backing the candidacy of General Bernal Escalante, a strongman in Gen Hugo Banzer's present government.

A few days ago there was a complete breakdown in the talks between the PDC and Victor Paz Estenssoro's National Revolutionary Movement [MNR] because of disagreement over the percentage of senators and deputies and, above all, over who would be presidential candidate.

The PDC is now campaigning for its candidate, both in cities and rural areas, through various proclamation rallies for Gen Rene Bernal Escalante, former defense minister in Gen Hugo Banzer's government.

EL DIARIO CRITICIZES 'INTERFERENCE' BY NEWSOM

PY012057Y La Paz EL DIARIO in Spanish 30 May 78 p 2 PY

[Article by Fernando Diez de Medina: "An Impertinent Visit"]

[Text] That most Bolivians are democratic and admire the great United States is a fact. That we are friends of the United States and that we need its technical and economic cooperation in the social promotion field is also a fact. But it is unusual for a president of that country to oversee the Bolivian electoral process. It is appropriate to ask: What for?

It is even more unusual for the U.S. under secretary for political affairs to call together at the U.S. Embassy personalities of Bolivia's highest political level--including several former presidents--and it is unusual that, after the meeting, at the lunch offered by the U.S. official none of the Bolivian personalities gave a speech after listening to his sermon because, according to a statement made by the U.S. Embassy, "the Washington delegate did not want to give the impression of preference."

That is to say, our former officials just sat there like bumps on a log listening to the long-winded speech by the U.S. under secretary without having raised their voices to answer the under secretary or to point out that if the United States is interested in Bolivia's democratic process, we also want U.S. foreign policy toward Bolivia to be real and not only declamatory, touching basic points such as our return to the sea, the dumping of tin reserves and more effective cooperation in the social and economic sectors.

It is surprising that the meeting between the Yankee official and our former officials was held at the U.S. Embassy--territory and jurisdiction of the United States--when it would have been more logical and fitting for Bolivians to talk on national territory and in a place outside the residence of the U.S. ambassador.

A local newspaper reported that "Carter's delegate took the pulse of the electorate."

Let us say it clearly: Neither the United States now any other country has the right to interfere in Bolivia's domestic policy. President Carter and his delegate have unofficially intervened a number of times in our country's internal politics. What right do they have and what are their intentions?

This continent, and the civilized world, enforces the principle of self-determination of peoples. We have the right to choose the form of government which best suits us and the form to lead us through the process of transition from a de facto government to a constitutional government.

Journalists and observers from international organizations of which Bolivia is a member can watch our return to the democratic system, but no nation, regardless of how great it is, can oversee our actions.

Do we need a U.S. okay to return to the constitutionalization of the country? Or is it that our great northern neighbor continues looking at the nations south of the Rio Grande through the eyes of an older brother?

A sovereign nation like Bolivia does not accept any oversight or interference which smells like colonialist control.

Carter and Newson should have stayed home until the end of our electoral process.

We feel, then, that Newson's visit is impertinent. It offends the spirit of sovereignty, freedom and independence of all Bolivians.

Our return to the democratic system is the sovereign decision of Bolivians alone. We do not need the approval or tutelage of anyone to implement it.

The unfortunate interference of Under Secretary Newson in our electoral process deserves the repudiation of our people.

It is a diplomatic blunder which offends Bolivian dignity.

BRIEFS

AIR FORCE RECEIVING PLANES--The commander in chief of the air force reported that the institution is receiving the first training planes manufactured in Italy by Marchetti. He indicated that the total cost is not known. [La Paz Radio Cruz del Sur Network in Spanish 2330 GMT 24 May 78 PY]

REDUCTION OF ROYALTIES REQUESTED--The Bolivian Federation of Mining Cooperatives has decided to ask the government for a substantial reduction of the mining royalties which affect the sector because they are considered to be unconstitutional and are a very heavy burden. [La Paz Radio Panamericana Network in Spanish 0000 GMT 25 May 78 PY]

NEW TRANSMITTER FOR ARMY--The army has received a 3-kw transmitter from the ROC. The transmitter will be given to the Batallon Colorados military radio station. [La Paz EL DIARIO in Spanish 23 May 78 p 5 PY]

NONTRADITIONAL EXPORTS--According to statistics released by the Central Bank and the Foreign Trade Office, Bolivian nontraditional exports reached $82.2 million during 1977, compared to $88.6 million during 1976. This reduction was caused by lower sales of sugar. [La Paz PRESENCIA in Spanish 22 May 78 p 3 PY]

MDB CONVENTION DECISIONS DRAW COMMENT, CRITICISM

Nobre, Guimaraes Comment

PY011952Y Sao Paulo Cadeia Verde Amarela in Portuguese 1000 GMT 1 Jun 78 PY

[Report from Brasilia by (Bahia Filho)]

[Text] The Brazilian Democratic Movement [MDB] approved a motion of Sao Paulo Deputy Freitas Nobre that the party participate in the indirect gubernatorial elections, and he himself will now explain his participation in the convention, held yesterday in Brasilia:

[begin Freitas Nobre recording] The main concern of this motion, which was approved by the illustrious delegates, is to make possible the formation of a democratic front involving the widest possible spectrum of public opinion interested in redemocratizing the country as quickly as possible. By establishing these 10 points in its convention, the MDB is making it easier for our party to establish contacts for the formation of that front.

[Question] Deputy, what were the restrictions imposed by the MDB convention yesterday?

[Answer] There were restrictions only on the names brought up in the convention--illustrious names, of course, but names the convention did not deem appropriate for inclusion in the final document. The decision of the convention centered on the 10 points of a program which will be offered to those outside the MDB who are interested in forming the front. As for elections, the MDB is against indirect elections, and I am too. However, the convention resolved that participation in state gubernatorial elections must be left up to the state directorates. The party will not participate in indirect election of senators.

[Question] Will the MDB launch a candidate for the state governorship in Sao Paulo?

[Answer] I do not believe so. When the conditions and the chances for the MDB become positive, I think the problem should be examined. However, for the nation's presidency, if names are brought up which are capable of quickly bringing about the redemocratization of the country, the MDB will run the risk of [violating its principles by] participating in the indirect election and accepting the candidate. [end recording]

Yesterday after the MDB convention ended, MDB national President Ulysses Guimaraes explained his party's plans in the near future:

[begin Guimaraes recording] The convention was held and its resolutions have been reported by the press. I gave opportunity for ample debate and I made decisions according to the law so as not to risk invalidation of the resolutions made by this convention.

[Question] As for the Redemocratization Front, will the MDB start making contacts?

[Answer] As for contacts with General Bentes Monteiro or Senator Magalhaes Pinto regarding the front, this will have to be examined by the party and I will only make contacts which are authorized by the party. That will be decided in time, and when it is we will go ahead and work. [end recording]

Radio Bandeirantes has just talked with Deputies Freitas Nobre and Ulysses Guimaraes while covering the MDB convention held yesterday in the nation's capital.

MDB Position Receives Approval

PY021422Y Sao Paulo Cadeia Verde Amarela in Portuguese 1000 GMT 2 Jun 78 PY

[Text] Gen Euler Bentes Monteiro, Senator Teotonio Vilela [National Renewal Alliance--Alagoas] and former Industry and Commerce Minister Severo Gomes met yesterday in Rio de Janeiro and issued a note expressing their agreement with the conditions set by the Brazilian Democratic Movement [MDB] for its participation in the Nation Redemocratization Front.

Convention Decisions Criticized

PY021606Y Brazilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 1 Jun 78 PY

[From the "Congressional Report"]

[Excerpts] Speaking as leader of the Brazilian Democratic Movement [MDB], Senator Marcos Freire [Pernambuco State] today took the floor to read the document approved by the MDB national convention, stating that this document is a valuable contribution made by the opposition during the political-institutional crisis which the country is experiencing.

Freire supported the decision of the MDB national executive board not to interfere in the gubernatorial succession process in Rio de Janeiro State, and stated that the MDB can legitimately nominate a candidate for the Rio de Janeiro governorship through the indirect election process.

He added that the document approved at the convention has established the guidelines and course of action to be followed by all those who do not agree with the present situation and who want democracy now.

Senator Dirceu Cardoso [MDB--Espirito Santo State] expressed his disagreement with the position assumed by the MDB in relation to the Rio de Janeiro State gubernatorial succession, stating that the decision meant a disruption of MDB principles.

Noting that he was deeply distressed, Cardoso regarded the MDB decision as MDB acquiescence to the content of the "April package," which the MDB has been fighting.

Supported by Senator Osires Teixeira, deputy leader of the National Renewal Alliance, Cardoso said that he was one of the 40 delegates who voted against the decision because he believes that it meant a disruption of principles and the position maintained until then by the MDB.

Cardoso added that the decision is harmful for the Espirito Santo MDB branch, which a few days earlier had expressed its complete opposition to any type of indirect election. He added that the Espirito Santo MDB branch is influenced by the Rio de Janeiro branch, in view of the proximity of the two states.

Also supported by Senator Otto Lehman [MDB--Sao Paulo State], Cardoso said that he wanted to make a statement for the record emphasizing the behavior of the Espirito Santo MDB delegates who voted against the decision of the national convention.

Deputy Genervino Fonseca [MDB--Goias State] also criticized the MDB national convention decision approving MDB participation in indirect elections of governors and the president of the republic.

Quoting a speech he made at the MDB convention on 19 May, Fonseca said that the MDB is now filled with contradictions and it might eventually become isolated from the people.

Deputy J. C. de Araujo Jorge [MDB--Rio de Janeiro State] termed the MDB national convention a comic opera which authorized the party to participate in indirect elections, and allowed that Rio de Janeiro State--the second most important state of the federation in political and economic power--be led by former governor Chagas Freitas.

According to Araujo Jorge, the authentic group can be blamed for the victory of the Chagas line. Under the pretext of defending the National Redemocratization Front, this group transferred to the state regional executive boards the power to decide whether to participate in the indirect elections established by the "April package."

JORNAL Criticizes MDB Betrayal

PY022316Y Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 1 Jun 78 p 10 PY

[Editorial: "Abdication of Principle"]

[Text] The Brazilian Democratic Movement [MDB] has finally, after much delay, come around to accepting its role within the 1964 revolution. From the time it was authorized to operate on a temporary basis--when the old political parties were disbanded--to the national convention held in the middle of this week, the Brazilian opposition has always refused, as a matter of principal, to accept indirect elections for governors and presidents of the nation.

Now the cause of the opposition is being left without a channel to express itself because the MDB has become an alternative to the National Renewal Alliance [ARENA]. It is now just another party on which the government can rely to maintain the appearance of political struggle and to build up a government facade which serves to disguise the distortion of the federal principle and delay in restoring democracy.

Not even the fraudulent use of the dialect of the authentics, who have been saving the face of an opposition soiled by the physiological sector [MDB softliners], was capable of disguising this delayed surrender which leads the MDB to accept indirect and sponsored elections which should be the last spectacle of the kind. While everything seems to indicate that the current political process is dying because it is not in line with national democratic awareness, the MDB allows itself to be lured by the songs of a solitary siren.

The MDB agreed at its national convention that it is up to each regional branch to decide whether to participate in indirect elections: What before was a matter of principle has now become a debatable issue. That fact is that the decision is not up to the convention but to the federal government, which has left the MDB--which in fact is not even a political party--the State of Rio de Janeiro as the only bone to chew on.

Why don't the brave members of our opposition, so full of rhetoric, claim the states of Sao Paulo and Rio Grande do Sul?

The fact is that the MDB has become just like ARENA: It accepts restrictions and repays courtesies. The rest is just meaningless rhetoric. Why did the MDB conventioneers consider the remote possibility of presenting a candidate in the presidential elections? Out of faith in the prior principled and struggling attitude? Certainly not.

If they wanted to struggle, they should have claimed the governments of Rio Grande do Sul and Sao Paulo, to which they are entitled. During the process of presidential succession the MDB will merely endorse an election which has been worrying ARENA.

There are other reasons--which have nothing to do with principles and moral commitments--which place ARENA and MDB at the same level, and they are mere physiological requirements for subsistence. This is the last proof of the fact that the political process is truly dying out, that it has not led us to any democracy and that it has deprived us of a dignified representative system. There is nothing left to expect from the two parties--which were born and have survived thanks only to the consent of the arbitrary regime--but the repetition of this kind of sad show.

STRIKE ENDS WITH 5-10 PERCENT WAGE HIKES

PY012102Y Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 30 May 78 p 1 PY

[Text] The labor strike in the ABC region [Santo Andre-Sao Bernardo do Campo--Sao Caetano do Sul] ended yesterday at 2100 when the Villares company proposed a 5-percent increase to its workers. Businessman Carlos Villares made this proposal--which was accepted by the workers--at an assembly of workers held at the Sao Bernardo factory, where he stated the reasons for not being able to grant a higher increase.

As of 1600 yesterday, there were no more idle workers in Santo Andre either. Earlier, there were stoppages at the Richet company, but this enterprise also agreed to give a 10-percent increase to its 1,800 workers. Luis Ignacio da Silva (Lulu), president of the Sao Paulo Steelworkers Union, warned, however, that the strike may resume, depending on the answer Ford gives its workers tomorrow.

MINISTER NOTES EASING OF RESTRICTIONS ON LABOR

PY311805Y Porto Alegre Radio Gaucha in Portuguese 1545 GMT 31 May 78 PY

[Text] The opening is already taking place in the labor sector, ahead of the political sector, Labor Minister Arnaldo Prieto said in Sao Paulo. As an example he cited the lifting of interventions by the Labor Ministry in unions such as the Union of Bank Employees of Rio de Janeiro. He stressed that this opening was initiated under the government of President Ernesto Geisel, adding that no one can be denied participation in union affairs.

Asked about the repercussion of the labor opening on the political sector, the minister replied that he preferred to discuss this more calmly at another time. Regarding the strikes, the minister said that they are almost over, and pronounced himself in favor of the government salary policy when asked about the prospects for direct worker-employer bargaining.

BRIEFS

COOPERATION WITH NIGERIA--The Planning Secretariat of the Presidency [SEPLAN] and Itamaraty have signed two agreements on technical cooperation with Nigeria to provide assistance in training Nigerians in architecture and urbanism. SEPLAN has earmarked 2.12 million cruzeiros for cooperation projects to be carried out simultaneously in Nigeria by the environmental design school of Sao Paulo University. [Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 17 May 78 p 7 PY]

GENERAL LEIGH SAYS MILITARY TO REMAIN IN POWER

PY021500Y Santiago Chile Radio Mineria Network in Spanish 1030 GMT 2 Jun 78 PY

[Text] Santiago--The military government must stay in power until the achievement of those objectives which determined its coming to power. These objectives are summarized in the commitment of restoring to Chile the institutionality which was violated during the preceding government.

This statement was made by junta member Gustavo Leigh when he presided over the anniversary ceremonies of the (Jose Bisquerino Lastarguida) school where General Leigh was educated.

General Leigh added: This solemn commitment which is stated in our declaration of principles and stamped in the first actions of our government is a duty which the military will fulfill since we are determined to achieve it.

In another part of his speech, the Chilean Air Force commander stated that all individuals must be provided with the necessary judicial means in case the authorities exceed their powers. General Leigh also discusses in detail the state of rights as the only form of government which can be accepted by the Western world. In this regard, he noted that government functions must be shared with various authorities and insisted on the division of powers among government branches and the urgent need to organize military government on the basis of complete obedience to these principles.

Regarding violence which, he said, he personally rejected, General Leigh added: Since human life is the most important thing in the universe, we categorically reject any sign of violence or unjustified force. We also condemn any form of physical or psychological pressure exercised on a human being.

Pinochet Remarks

PY021749Y Paris AFP in Spanish 1540 GMT 2 Jun 78 PY

[Excerpt] Santiago--Chilean President Augusto Pinochet warned today that those who believe that the military government is finished are wrong. He added that those who are in a hurry must not forget the blood spilt on 11 September 1973, the date of the military coup which ousted socialist President Salvador Allende.

Pinochet issued this warning when speaking at a community meeting. He noted that "the rapid return of the country to normality has raised in some the hope for a possible return of party politics."

He noted: "This is why, I believe, it is necessary to say once again that you are wrong if you believe that the military government is finished and that it will yield to your ambitions."

FOUR UNION LEADERS BEGIN HUNGER STRIKE

PY021900Y Paris AFP in Spanish 1707 GMT 2 Jun 78 PY

[Text] Santiago, 2 Jun--Four Chilean union leaders today entered the headquarters of the International Labor Organization [ILO] here and began a hunger strike. Sources close to the leaders said their action was taken to lend support to the hunger strike undertaken 12 days ago by the relatives of Chileans who have allegedly been arrested or who have disappeared under the present military regime.

The sources added that there are many workers and union leaders among the 600 missing persons.

An ILO official said that the strikers arrived at the headquarters, located in downtown Santiago, a little after 1000 local time (1400 GMT).

The hunger strike which began on Monday of last week involves more than 190 persons--relatives of the missing persons, priests and nuns--who are staying at Catholic churches in Santiago, Concepcion and Talca, and at the offices of the International Red Cross and UNICEF. Efforts to solve the conflict are being made by the Catholic Church and the government.

REPORT ON UN HUMAN RIGHTS COMMITTEE DENIED

PY031348Y Santiago Chile Radio Mineria Network in Spanish 1030 GMT 3 Jun 78 PY

[Text] Santiago, Chile--Government spokesmen denied yesterday the arrival of a UN investigative committee for human rights which had been announced by a news agency. Miguel Schweitzer, legal adviser of the Foreign Ministry, stated that this report was just a rumor and indicated that nothing has been decided in this connection.

Jose Miguel Barros, Chilean ambassador to the United States, said: "I am surprised at this report. I suppose it must be just a rumor and I am sure that higher-ranking government officials will make a statement in this regard."

Capt (Claudio Dollados), ret, former alternate ambassador to the United Nations, officially stated that he was not aware of the arrival of any such committee.

TOTAL NATIONAL DEBT REPORTED AT $5.4 BILLION

PY022100Y Paris AFP in Spanish 1536 GMT 2 Jun 78 PY

[Text] Santiago, Chile, 2 Jun--According to a Central Bank report released today, Chile's foreign debt is more than $5.4 billion. The Foreign Financing Department of the Central Bank indicated that as of 31 December the country's debt to foreign organizations amounted to $5.434 billion. The United States is the main creditor, holding 46 percent of this debt.

Out of the total, $3.673 billion was contracted by the public sector and the rest by the private sector.

Enrique Tazara, director of the Central Bank Foreign Financing Department, stated that the government plans to sign five credit operations with international organizations this year. The overall amount involved in these operations is more than $400 million.

He added that the level of the country's indebtedness is reasonable because the country has good prospects for new sources of income from the growing diversification of its exports.

The Chilean economy's main source of foreign currency is copper, which brings in almost 70 percent of the funds of the national budget, an amount close to $1.5 billion.

ELECTIONS REGISTER HEAVY TURNOUT; INCIDENTS REPORTED

Returns Show Turbay Leading

PA050456Y Madrid EFE in Spanish 0429 GMT 5 Jun 78 PA

[Excerpts] Bogota, 4 June (EFE)--Seven hours after the conclusion of the elections, Colombia does not yet know the name of the president who will rule it during the 1978-1982 period.

With 45 percent of the total votes counted, Liberal candidate Julio Cesar Turbay Ayala has taken the lead over his closest opponent, Conservative Belisario Betancur Cuartas, and has left all of the other seven candidates without any possibility of winning.

The electoral returns issued by the Electoral Registry are still incomplete, but they seem to favor either Turbay or Betancur, with a certain margin in favor of the former.

According to the most recent count, Turbay has an advantage of 101,229 votes over Betancur.

The Liberal candidate has obtained a total of 1,209,398 votes compared to the Conservative candidate's 1,108,169 votes and the 20,602 votes obtained by the National Renewal Movement candidate, former army commander Gen Alvaro Valencia Tovar.

It is believed tht the name of the new chief of state, who will take office on 7 August, will not be known until early Monday morning.

Heavy Voter Turnout Reported

PA042042Y Madrid EFE in Spanish 1955 GMT 4 Jun 78 PA

[Text] Bogota, 4 Jun (EFE)--According to sources from two political parties, their candidates are winning a majority of the votes. The Colombian presidential elections began 4 hours and 30 minutes ago. The two parties are the Liberal Party of candidate Julio Cesar Turbay Ayala and the National Renovation Movement of Gen Alvaro Valencia Tovar. The surprise here is Valencia Tovar, who according to observers could obtain far more than the 300,000 votes he was expected to receive.

Voting is proceeding normally throughout the country. Public order was disrupted when a drunk died in a clash with police in the town of Chinu, in the northern part of the country, and a person was wounded as a result of a bomb explosion in the town of Santa Marita, also in the northern part of the country.

Voting has been heavy throughout the country, with the exception of Bogota, where the rain this morning reduced the number of voters, according to the election registrar's office. In general, voting has been heavier than expected.

According to information provided by the Liberal Party, it could well be that 6 million people will vote. This is 1 million more than expected. If this occurs, the abstention rate will be reduced to 50 percent, as approximately 12 million persons have registered.

If voting continues as heavily as during the first 4 hours, by 1900 this evening definitive results could be known in most of the departments, with the exception of Bogota.

Amry and police surveillance in the major cities is very intense. In Bogota, military patrols stop all suspicious-looking persons and ask them for identification. Those who have bags with them are searched.

There was an incident shortly after the polls were opened when police found in a Bogota suburban area that votes favoring the Liberal Party had already been deposited in a ballot box. Apparently the persons responsible for this poll were arrested and the ballot box closed.

By noon, all the candidates as well as the president of the republic had voted. Julio Cesar Turbay Ayala, the Liberal Party's candidate, appeared optimistic when he made a brief statement to the news media. He said that he will meet with them at 2200 to give them his observations on the voting and, if possible, the definite results. According to sources close to Turbay, the Liberal Party's lead in the most important provinces was evident by noon today. Meanwhile, Conservative Party candidate Belisario Betancur voted at the polls close to the capitol building. He also appeared confident that the election results would take him to the presidency of the republic.

Report on Opening of Polls

PA041409Y Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 1345 GMT 4 May 78 PA

[Text] The polls opened throughout Colombia at 0800 today with bugles and drums. The voting, carried out in good weather and with the citizens in a good mood, will last 8 hours. It is expected that the present democratic and patriotic atmosphere will continue throughout the day.

From the national registrar's office this station has just been informed that the polls opened throughout the country at 0800. Jose Antonio Villamil, spokesman for the Civil Registry, indicated that good weather prevails everywhere except in Florencia, Caqueta Department. He added that according to information received from the different delegates of several precincts, voting started in all department capitals. He added that at around 1630 the Civil Registry will try to issue the first bulletin on the partial returns of the presidential elections being carried out today throughout Colombia. The Civil Registry may also give some reports on the results of the elctions abroad where the polls closed at noon. He pointed out that everything is calm in the country today.

Violence Reported During Elections

PA042121Y Bogota Radio Super in Spanish 2005 GMT 4 Jun 78 PA

[Text] (?Incidents) of some seriousness took place in this country around noon today. Some clashes have been reported in the departmental superintendency of Puerto Lopez, Tibirita Municipality, Cundinamarca.

According to fragmented reports received at the Government Ministry, two politically opposed groups confronted each other with weapons. The outcome of this clash is not yet known. The mayor of Tibirita has reportedly ordered troops into the town, and the Government Ministry is trying to contact him by phone to learn the details of the developments that led to this.

Meanwhile, in Monteria, a nun was arrested for fraudulently altering the votes that were to be deposited at the polls by various citizens.

In Maicao, several small incidents were also reported but were controlled by the public forces. At present, the situation in this town and in Guajira is completely normal.

Back in Bogota, the authorities and several Government Ministry officials have reported that six bombs exploded in various parts of the city, causing property damage but no casualties. According to Government Ministry sources, the situation is completely normal in the rest of the country.

At this moment, an after-lunch recess is taking place. Government Minister Alfredo Araujo Grau is awaited in his office to give a new official report on the public order situation.

Demonstration in Manizales

PA042209Y Bogota Emisoras Caracol Network in Spanish 2152 GMT 4 Jun 78 PA

[Report by Alvaro Hernando Gallegos]

[Text] Manizales--A clash between followers of candidates Belisario Betancur and Julio Cesar Turbay Ayala is currently taking place in the Plaza de Bolivar, located in the capital city of Caldas.

National Popular Alliance Senator Domingo [name indistinct] Jimenez fired a revolver but was disarmed by the public order forces, which are at present securing the downtown area. The army is currently dispersing a fracas between Conservative and Liberal supporters gathered at this city's main plaza. Several persons have already been arrested.

Polls Officially Closed

PA042117Y Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 2108 GMT 4 Jun 78 PA

[Text] Bogota, 4 Jun (LATIN)--The polls for the election of a successor to Colombian President Alfonso Lopez Michelsen were officially closed at 1600 (2100 GMT).

ACTS OF TERRORISM MAR ELECTION PREPARATIONS

PA032213Y Bogota Radio Cadena Nacional in Spanish 1730 GMT 3 Jun 78 PA

[Text] Isolated acts of terrorism have occurred in recent hours in five places in the country, causing considerable property damage. No one has been killed or injured, however.

The wave of terrorism, which the authorities attribute to persons who hope to disrupt tomorrow's presidential elections, became unusually destructive today when a bomb exploded in the office of the chief of police of Riohacha, Guajira. The explosion occurred early this morning. It destroyed desks, files and other equipment.

In Quindio, Cauca, extremists set off a medium-intensity bomb in the office of the municipal registrar. In addition to causing damage to the building, the ensuing fire destroyed papers and other materials which had been prepared for tomorrow's elections.

The site of the multinational Singer Company in Cali was also dynamited early this morning. The building's windows were completely destroyed.

In the capital of the republic, terrorists attacked an office belonging to Turbay Ayala supporters in Ciudad Kennedy. Shortly afterward, police explosives experts deactivated another bomb which had been placed in one of the offices of the National Renovation Movement, which is headed by Gen Alvaro Valencia Tovar.

Police headquarters announced that in the last few hours antiterrorist measures have been intensified in Bogota as well as in other cities to forestall other such acts and to insure that the elections will take place normally tomorrow.

So far, no group has claimed credit for the series of dynamite attacks. The wave of terrorism began 2 weeks ago. Urban guerrilla elements are being blamed for most of the incidents.

Policemen Ambushed in Bogota

PA021625Y Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 1100 GMT 2 Jun 78 PA

[Text] Policeman Pedro Paez Urdaneta was killed and policeman Jose Del Carmen Hernandez Parra was critically wounded here last night when several youths, presumably university students, machinegunned the police officers, who were on a routine patrol along 47th Street and 13th Avenue in northern Bogota. Police confirmed today that this attack is part of the wave of violence and terrorism that has disrupted the country in the last few weeks, particularly in Bogota.

The Maoist Popular Liberation Army [EPL] has claimed credit for this attack. In anonymous telephone calls to the police station and several radio stations, the EPL announced that the Pedro Leon Arboleda urban commando group is responsible for the attack and threatened new actions. This extremist movement has already claimed credit for many terrorist attacks, particularly against the military in Bogota and other cities.

Joint patrols of the army, police and F-2 are today searching for the criminals.

BRIEFS

BALANCE OF PAYMENTS--Bogota, 23 May (EFE)--According to the Bank of the Republic, the Colombian balance of payments had a positive balance of $8 million for the first quarter of this year. The bank reported a large influx of foreign capital during the period, which reduced a substantial negative balance. [Madrid EFE in Spanish 1234 GMT 23 May 78 PA]

AGREEMENT WITH ITALY--Bogota--Colombia signed an agreement with Italy today for the exploration of geothermic energy sources in the volcanic region of El Ruiz. Italy will contribute 180 million liras to the project, the initial cost of which will be 20 million pesos, according to Mines and Energy Minister Eduardo Gaitan Duran. The plan also involves the construction of an electric central expected to yield from 3 to 10 megawatts of power. [Bogota Radio Cadena Nacional in Spanish 1730 GMT 29 May 78 PA]

MALARIA CASES DETECTED--Cali, Colombia--A total of 154 malaria cases have been detected in this city following the discovery of this illness on the islands of (Guanchaco) and (La Bucana), located in the Pacific Ocean, according to the director of the Malaria Eradication Service. He added that tourist traffic to these islands has decreased by 80 percent, which makes it possible to control the disease better. [Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 1100 GMT 30 May 78 PA]

NEW LAW RESTRICTS PRESIDENTIAL CHOICE OF DEFENSE MINISTER

PA011723Y Quito Cadena del Triunfo in Spanish 1220 GMT 1 Jun 78 PA

[Excerpts] The defense minister of the next government to be installed in Ecuador after the elections on 16 July will be the senior general of the Armed Forces, according to Rear Adm Victor Garces Pozo, secretary general of the administration. To this effect, the Supreme Council of Government recently amended the Armed Forces law.

Political leaders have considered this amendment to be contrary to the constitution approved during a popular referendum as part of the process for the restoration of democracy which the country has been undergoing since 1976.

In effect, the constitution gives the president of the republic the right to freely appoint and dismiss his ministers. The present military government says that there is no contradiction here, because the constitution says that the Armed Forces must be regulated by by their law, which is none other than that which is presently in effect, according to the secretary general of the administration.

In essence, the novel legal principle here is the idea that under the approved constitution a secondary law overrides the clear and traditional constitutional precept--that the constitution comes first. In other words, the executive power will have to yield to the [Armed Forces] law which the government says is legal.

According to the government, the constitution must defer to the Armed Forces law as regards the hierarchy, organization, mission and employment of the Armed Forces. This was stated by the secretary general of the administration when he read a news bulletin that took the place of a news conference that he had convened with great ceremony. The official not only refused to answer questions, but moreover, after reading the bulletin, rose abruptly and left the news room of the presidency to return to his private office.

[begin Garces recording] The organic law of the Armed Forces, in referring to the National Defense Ministry, says in Article 24 that the Defense Ministry is the highest-ranking administrative post of the Armed Forces. In addition, Article 25 says, based on the provision of the foregoing article, that the national defense minister will be the senior Armed Forces general on active duty appointed by the president of the republic. Moreover, the same article provides that the defense minister is the director of the military (?front).

The foregoing indicates that there is no contradiction of any kind between the constitution and the organic law of the Armed Forces, since the constitution determines that the Armed Forces must make their own law and this law, for the military institution, is none other than the existing organic law of the Armed Forces.

The amendment to the Armed Forces organic law--which was in effect until 1977 and which provided that the national defense minister should be a general officer on active or inactive duty--is a reflection of the logical evolution of the law, which initially provided that this post could be filled by either a civilian or a military officer on active or inactive duty. At present, since the defense minister is the director of the military (?front), it is indispensable that this post be filled by a professional who is well versed in military problems. [end recording]

Political forces all agreed that this subject requires a calm analysis and a decision as to the advantage of the continued presence of the military in the electoral process. They said that the government's announcement may or may not be in line with the objectives of the process of return to a constitutional system. We will make a statement, but we must study the circumstances, they said, adding that analysis is necessary.

However, two political leaders dared to comment on the announcement without hesitation. The first was former vice presidential candidate and a principal member of the Liberal Party Directorate, Dr Blasco Penaherrera Padilla, who said:

[begin recording] From the legal viewpoint, the statement made by the secretary general of the administration is absurd. It represents an attempt to make the organic law of the Armed Forces the true basic law of the state by giving it a legal position superior to that of the constitution. This is absolutely unacceptable.

From another viewpoint, it would also imply that the Armed Forces have decided to establish themselves in Ecuador as a real autonomous institution--with the term autonomous understood in its absolute legal and semantic sense. In other words, it would be an institution which could make its own rules, its own basic law, absolutely independent of the state as a whole and of the other institutions which make up and constitute the state. This, from the legal point of view, is also inadmissible. [end recording]

Dr Julio Cesar Trujillo, national director of the People's Democracy Movement and campaign director of the Roldos-Hurtado ticket for the mountain sector, analyzed the announcement in the following terms: [begin recording] From the legal and constitutional viewpoint, this law is undoubtedly unconstitutional. It goes against the spirit and the text of the constitution approved by the people in the referendum of January 1978.

The constitution establishes a republican presidential system of government characterized by the fact that the so-called ministers are no more than secretaries of the president of the republic and, therefore, are people who have his confidence. Therefore, the constitution says that they may be freedly dismissed by the chief executive, just as they were appointed by him. It may well be that the senior Armed Forces officer may not be a man in his confidence. It will, therefore, be necessary to appoint as defense minister a man in whom the president does not have enough confidence to make him a presidential secretary in the area of national defense.

Moreover, ministers of state are subject to political judgment by the Chamber of Representatives. Once the Chamber has judged them, it may decide to censure them, whereupon the censured minister is required to leave his post. Consequently, in the case of a censured defense minister, we would be faced with a situation in which he would either have to leave the Armed Forces at the same time that he leaves the ministry in order to allow his immediate subordinate to become defense minister, or we would have the absurd situation in which the minister would be yielding to another officer who would not them be the senior officer. Otherwise, he would have to remain in the ministry in order to comply with the law, thereby contravening the constitutional provision that a censured minister has to leave his post. The foregoing make this law unconstitutional.

The law will, therefore, be automatically revoked the moment the constitution approved by the people in the 1978 referendum goes into effect, because one of the final constitutional provisions is that all laws, decrees, regulations and agreements which are contrary to the spirit and letter of the constitution will be annulled as soon as the constitution becomes effective. Since this law goes against the spirit and letter of the constitution, it will be subject to this provision and will therefore be annulled. [end recording]

Political Leaders' Reaction

PA021624Y Quito Cadena del Triunfo in Spanish 1255 GMT 2 Jun 78 PA

[Excerpts] Most political leaders have rejected the imposition of a defense minister in the upcoming democratic government.

In view of the interpretation which states that this law is compatible with the principles of the constitution approved in the referendum on 15 January, several lawyers consulted by Radio Quito called attention to what the constitution itself says on the subject. The lawyers noted that Article 137 of the constitution states that the constitution is the supreme law. Secondary laws and other subordinate laws must conform to constitutional precepts. Any laws, decrees, ordinances, provisions or international treaties or agreements which in any way run contrary to the constitution or which alter its provisions have no validity, according to the constitution itself.

Among the many reactions to the military's imposition was that of the leftist Broad Front and its presidential candidate, lawyer Rene Mauge. To the leftist Broad Front, the measure constitutes an offense to the dignity of the military commanders themselves, whether on active or inactive duty, because it attributed competence exclusively to the senior officers on active duty. The Broad Front publicly opposed the military government's amendment, charging that it seeks to impose on the country a directed [dirigido] democracy such as exists in other South American countries.

This was the opinion expressed by presidential candidate Rene Mauge: [begin recording] It is a provision which, moreover, runs contrary to the constitution approved in a referendum by the Ecuadorean people. It is not that an officer should not be the defense minister or occupy any other post that a president of the republic may assign to the Armed Forces or to any particular officer. However, it is not possible to make impositions, to legislate in this country by decree, because this is negative. The ministers of state are persons who should have the full confidence of the president of the republic. To make impositions regarding the secretaries of state would create situations of conflict in the future between the president and his secretaries, conflicts which, moreover, could not be resolved because in this case they would involve the institution of the Armed Forces. Therefore, I consider the amendment attached to the Armed Forces organizational law to be improper and unconstitutional. [end recording]

Rodrido Borja, a lawyer and presidential candidate of the Democratic Left, feels that the limitations being placed upon the chief executive in the appointment of his aides are inadmissible. The president of the democratic left will enforce his authority to command in the event that he becomes president, Dr Borja said.

Radio Quito asked Dr Borja whether he considers this imposition by the Armed Forces to be an attempt to continue to participate in the next democratic government.

[begin recording] This depends on the leadership ability of the president of the republic. [end recording]

It would seem that the military government does not attribute any great importance to all this, since the secretary general of public administration reiterated in the past few hours that the defense minister must be the senior officer on active duty.

EL UNIVERSO OPPOSES CREDIT PACT WITH CUBA

PA032151Y Guayaquil EL UNIVERSO in Spanish 26 May 78 p 6 PA

[Editorial: "An Agreement With Cuba"]

[Text] A brief news release has been issued concerning a reciprocal credit agreement signed by Ecuador and Cuba in Havana. It was signed by the general manager of the Ecuadorean Central Bank and authorized and approved by the Monetary Board.

So far, the text of the agreement was not been released, nor has even a summary of its main clauses. Complete or partial information about the agreement is needed to dispel misconceptions and to determine how and to what degree Ecuador will benefit from it.

Neither Ecuador nor Cuba is in a position to export capital. Rather, they both need capital for their development. Consequently, it is mystifying to hear of the signing of an agreement which will not be implemented because Ecuador will not be able to lend money to Cuba and Cuba will be unable to contribute part of the capital Ecuador needs.

If what we say is true, then one must ask why the agreement was signed in the first place.

Supposing that Cuba could send capital to Ecuador, then we must know under what conditions such an operation would be carried out and whether Ecuador intends to abandon the big capital market, the United States, as a source of loans in order to negotiate with a small nation that would try to enter the Ecuadorean scene with captivating bait in order to collect large dividends later, and not only in cash.

Let us suppose that Ecuador could provide Cuba with capital. Has there been any consultation on the control the lending nation would have over the use of the resources granted?

Agreements of this kind between nations with different economic and financial systems are dangerous and should be entered into with much caution and with the proper guarantees.

As everybody knows, Cuba is a country which has a considerable and ever-increasing debt with the USSR which it finds harder and harder to repay. So why go to Havana for credit if that country cannot provide it? And vice versa, how can Ecuador, which needs capital for its development, become a money lender, especially to a nation which already owes such astronomical sums? This leads us to believe that the agreement is based on a mistaken interpretation of the reality in Ecuador and Cuba. It may even have been concluded with the idea that Ecuador would contribute the scant resources it has so Cuba can recover domestically or even invest the credit obtained to continue its unfortunate intervention in African states.

The country requires a clear and truthful explanation of the reasons which led to the signing of the reciprocal credit agreement, an instrument which to us seems destined to become a dead letter or a useless expression of good will between two nations plagued by the same financial ailment.

We believe that every international agreement signed by Ecuador should be conceived and analyzed with high patriotic feeling so that the nation's prestige is not compromised and so our country will not become a backer or supporter of dangerous political situations. Can it be that there is already a fifth column of work in Ecuador's financial institutions?

FINANCIAL PLAN APPROVED TO ALLEVIATE PAYMENTS PRESSURE

PY021345Y Lima Radio Cronica in Spanish 1155 GMT 2 Jun 78 PY

[Text] Peruvian Economy and Finance Minister Javier Silva Ruete has reported on the results of negotiations in New York, where bankers who have lent money to Peru met from 22 to 26 May. The minister stated that the bankers approved a financial plan which will alleviate the pressure created by the payments due within the next 6 months.

The economy and finance minister stated that the plan involves approximately $185 million.

MINISTER SAYS FOREIGN INVESTORS SHOWING GREATER INTEREST

PY021343Y Lima Radio Cronica in Spanish 1155 GMT 2 June 78 PY

[Text] The Peruvian energy and mines minister stated today that investors have confidence in Peru. Gen Juan Sanchez Gonzalez stated that it is possible to see an increase of confidence and interest among foreign investors who want to participate in the exploitation of Peruvian oil and minerals.

The minister stated that the new incentives for small mining enterprises will give rise to a nationwide increase of capital which will alleviate the pressure on the mining bank and will increase the amount of resources available for mining.

The minister emphasized the support offered by the president of the nation and his cabinet by giving swift approval to measures aimed at creating new job sources and increasing production in order to improve Peru's production and generate foreign currency.

General Sanchez Gonzalez reported that he will soon meet with representatives from several Italian and Netherlands firms interested in exploiting deposits which have been opened for bidding.

EDITORIAL DOUBTS SUCCESS OF UN DISARMAMENT EFFORTS

PA030343Y Lima EL COMERCIO in Spanish 25 May 78 p 2 PA

[Editorial: "World Meeting on Disarmament"]

[Text] The UN General Assembly has opened a 5-week special session to establish the foundations for "a universal disarmament strategy" in a climate of general uncertainty. The summit meeting, to be attended by chiefs of state and government and foreign ministers of the 149 member nations, is the culmination of 17 years of frustrated efforts and, in fact, substitutes for the planned world disarmament conference, which has been unable to convene to date because of the big powers' disagreements.

The arms race is nothing new in the world, except for its magnitude and growing destructive power, which has matched the pace of scientific and industrial development. To ask why the big powers stockpile atomic bombs is like asking why the cavemen stockpiled spears and arrows. In order to eliminate this practice, it is first necessary to find the motive behind such conduct. It is not that the mystery is so intricate that nobody has been able to decipher it. In fact, it is so obvious and clear that everyone prefers to ignore it: Individuals, like communities, arm themselves to defend their just or unjust interests.

That is why, of the nations of this planet, the most cultured and developed are precisely the ones that arm themselves most heavily and care least for disarmament conferences. The huge expenses they incur are in line with the selfish interests they defend and the benefits they expect to achieve. The possibilities of changing through agreements this reality, which is tne basis of the arms race, are as remote as the possibilities of influencing the hegemonic powers. Perhaps this is the reason why the big powers attribute more importance to agreements between themselves than to these pompous meetings which intelligent people instinctively view with skepticism.

FOCEP SAYS OUSTING MILITARY FIRST PRIORITY

PA021936Y Paris AFP in Spanish 0025 GMT 2 Jun 78 PA

[Text] Lima, 1 Jun (AFP)--The Popular, Student, Peasant and Worker Front (FOCEP) asserted today that political struggle in Peru must have as its first priority "the separation of the military government from power."

FOCEP, one of the 12 parties registered to participate in the coming constitutent elections, said that without the reestablishment of democratic guarantees,the process will be a farce aimed at perpetuating the military regime. The front, which is headed by lawyer Genaro Ledesma, currently in exile, asked for the reestablishment of constitutional guarantees and political programs, the release of political prisoners, return of the exiles and freedom of the press.

"No electoral process can be carried out under the present repressive, regimented and undemocratic conditions," said FOCEP, which invited the other parties to establish a front "to restore freedom and end the dictatorship."

AGRARIAN GROUPS SUPPORT DECISION TO DISBAND CNA

PY031519Y Lima Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 3 Jun 78 PY

[Text] The government's decision to disband the National Agrarian Confederation [CNA] has received the support of the Peruvian Sugar-Producing Cooperatives Central. This organization has released a communique stating that the CNA had neglected legitimate interests of the Peruvian peasants and had engaged in purely political activities. The communique also stated that the disbanded organization had paid no attention to the needs of the sugar workers and [words indistinct] solve their difficulties.

The government's decision also received the support of 1,200 members of the Talca 5 Agrarian Cooperative, whose leader met with Agriculture and Nutrition Minister Luis Arbulu Ibanez. At this meeting the leaders of the cooperative stated that they had (? withdrawn) from the CNA some time ago because the latter's representatives interfered with work in the fields. They added that "the only thing we ever got from the CNA was political propaganda." Minister Arbulu Ibanez reasserted that the government will continue providing firm support to peasant leagues and federations, thus helping to fully implement agrarian reform, which is a task for all Peruvians.

Meanwhile, the main agrarian organizations of the Ica Department expressed their total support for the disbandment of the CNA. These organi ations also reasserted that it was a well-known fact that this organization had lapsed into political factionism, which helped to destroy the unity of the peasants. The organizations issued a communique signed by the leaders of 19 cooperatives of Ica Valley, 18 cooperatives of Chincha Valley, 16 cooperatives of Pizco Valley, and 8 cooperatives of Nazca Valley.

PRESIDENT PEREZ LEAVES FOR VISIT TO JAMAICA

PA021452Y Paris AFP in Spanish 1322 GMT 2 Jun 78 PA

[Text] Caracas, 2 Jun (AFP)--Venezuelan President Carlos Andres Perez left for Jamaica today on an official 2-day visit.

The Venezuelan president will meet with Jamaican Prime Minister Michael Manley and other high-ranking government officials of that Caribbean nation regarding expansion of commercial and cultural relations between the two countries.

Perez, who will meet with European leaders of the Socialist International, will return to Venezuela tomorrow night.

AD PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE OUTLINES PETROLEUM POLICY

PA040212Y Caracas EL NACIONAL in Spanish 26 May 78 p 2D PA

[Text] Democratic Action [AD] presidential candidate Luis Herrera Pinerua Ordaz, during a speech at the "petroleum and petrochemical forum" held in Maracaibo, promised a more aggressive export policy and a rationalization of the domestic consumption of hydrocarbons.

Pinerua said that the petrochemical industry of Venezuela does not have the capacity to allow the country to take full advantage of its position as a petroleum producer. He revealed that, since its establishment in 1956, this industry has accumulated a loss of over 3 billion bolivares. After saying that the loss was caused by several factors, Pinerua said that he would "build an efficient industry that would produce at the optimum rate and be able to keep pace with technological developments. This industry would be in a position to satisfy domestic demands and successfully compete on the world market."

The nature of technology, the great complexity of technical processes, their rapid obsolescence and the fact that research and development in the area of advanced technology is in the hands of a small number of international concerns, Pinerua Ordaz said, make it unavoidable that we find formulas to permit the participation of the private sector in this branch of the petrochemical industry.

I want to say, the AD candidate continued, that this attitude must not be understood as an attempt to exclude the state from the administration of this activity which is so important to the national economy. Rather, I share the opinion that the state itself has an enormous ability to guide and watch over the industry through its legislative and administrative powers and that in a wide variety of associations with the private sector it can combine efficiency and the exercise of national sovereignty to contribute to the overall development of the petrochemical industry. In this manner we can take full advantage of two basic elements we lack today and which would be very difficult to obtain in the immediate future--technology and general experience in the petrochemical business.

Pinerua began his speech by saying that once "the decision was made to nationalize the industry, the state had to promote and make more efficient the exploration process through an adequate and rational administration of the technological, logistic and human resources required by the industry."

He added that he would continue the programs already begun for the estimation of known reserves and the discovery of new resources in new areas in order to improve the reserve-production ratio. Pinerua explained that in the near future the exploration would include a search for light and medium crudes as well as additional analyses of the continental shelf.

This would allow the evaluation of its potential so the state could order its exploitation at the most appropriate time. He said that he would continue the overall evaluation of the Orinoco belt so that its reserves could be exploited whenever it would best suit the nation's interests.

Pinerua then referred to reserve estimates for the year 1977, which amounted to a little over 17 billion barrels in the ratio of 1 barrel of light or medium crude for every 3 barrels of heavy crude. Yet four barrels of light crude are being produced for every barrel of heavy crude. This situation, in Pinerua's opinion, compels him to pursue a more aggressive "marketing policy abroad that would allow the diversification of our markets both in terms of buyers and in the amounts of crude and refined products sold."

To speak of Venezuelan petroleum, Pinerua said, is to speak of the country itself. No social, economic or political event in our recent history has been unrelated to circumstances and events affecting our basic productive activity. Fortunately or unfortunately, our country's fate is linked only to one thing, the petroleum industry. Our task for the future, a task we began 20 years ago, is the rational exploitation of this resource in order to diversify our economy and free ourselves from an excessive dependence on it.

Pinerua then recalled in detail the participation of his party, the AD, in the defense of the country's main resource and in the measures passed to keep it in the hands of the state. He recalled the termination of petroleum concessions, the so-called fiscal policy of the 50's and 60's, the conservation of hydrocarbons, the creation of the first state petroleum enterprise (the CVP) the training of petroleum specialists, the initiative to create OPEC, and finally the nationalization of the petroleum industry. All these events, Pinerua said, had the participation of the AD and its main leaders.

The AD candidate outlined other aspects of his petroleum policy: The considerable investments required to make changes in the refining process must be evaluated and controlled; marketing agreements with multinational concerns must be revised as part of a firm policy of price protection; markets must be diversified and direct sales must be promoted in traditional markets. He said that he would promote actions to establish associations which "would allow us an effective participation in the export refineries in the Caribbean area."

Pinerua said that the increase in the domestic consumption of refined petroleum products has been dramatic. He said that this consumption might total 1 million barrels a day by 1985. Pinerua promised to apply measures to rationalize the domestic consumption of hydrocarbons and to develop various alternate energy sources.

Pinerua then listed the factors that had been responsible for the deficit in the national petrochemical industry: Planning had been subject to frequent changes in its objectives and instruments; serious deficiences had occurred in the development of projects and plant construction; and there has been a lack of a sound personnel policy.

The AD candidate recalled that the present administration has made efforts and created a new institute to solve the existing problems.

After analyzing the institutional reforms that had been made, he outlined his policy for the coming 5 years. I am fully aware that we must build an efficient petrochemical industry with the potential for economical and maximum production and able to keep up with technological advances, an industry that can satisfy domestic demands and compete successfully in world markets, he said, but I also want to be a realist regarding the ability of the Venezuelan Government to achieve these goals using only its own resources.

After referring to the possible participation of private capital in the petrochemical industry, Pinerua continued: The need for international cooperation has been acknowledged by all the countries in the world, even the more developed, regardless of the ideological viewpoints of their respective governments. It is a known fact that socialist countries, including the Soviet Union, have not abstained from associating with Western firms and capital in order to serve their national interests.

Pinerua added that it is no secret that our country pays large sums of money every year for the purchase of technology. We are not sure when this situation can change. However, if nothing is done in this respect, this dependency will continue indefinitely. We must therefore begin a program of basic research as soon as possible in order to gradually develop our own technology.

During the 5 years of my term, Pinerua concluded, we shall draft a coherent petroleum policy. We shall not make false starts, nor shall we spend large sums of money in this area while disregarding other important goals. I make an appeal to businessmen, professionals and workers to participate actively in the effort to rescue and strengthen our national petrochemical industry, which must be the cornerstone of Venezuela's industrial diversification.

BRIEFS

1977 EXPORT VOLUME--Venezuelan exports in 1977 totaled $10.063 billion, a report by the Foreign Trade Institute notes. Sales of nontraditional goods totaled 2 billion bolivares, about $462 million. Nontraditional exports increased by 60 percent as compared to 1976 figures. [Caracas Radio Continente Network in Spanish 1000 GMT 13 May 78 PA]

COFFEE HARVEST FIGURE--Agriculture and Livestock Minister Gustavo Pinto Cohen has announced that more than 55 million kg of coffee have been harvested so far this year. [Caracas Radio Continente Network in Spanish 1000 GMT 22 May 78 PA]

HYDROELECTRIC PLANTS PURCHASED--A spokesman of the Japanese firm Hitachi has reported that Venezuela signed a contract in Japan for the purchase of 10 hydroelectric plants valued at $77 million. According to the contract, the 730,000-kw capacity plants must be delivered by May 1986. [Caracas Radio Continente Network in Spanish 1000 GMT 24 May 78 PA]

BULGARIAN, PRC AMBASSADORS--Caracas, 22 May (AFP)--Stefan Todorov Stanev, the new ambassador from Bulgaria, and Cheng Wei-chih, new ambassador from the People's Republic of China, today presented their credentials to Venezuelan President Carlos Andres Perez in separate ceremonies. [Paris AFP in Spanish 0206 GMT 23 May 78 PA]

NEW APOSTOLIC NUNCIO--Monsignor Ubaldo Calabresi, the new representative of the Holy See to our country, will arrive here today. [Caracas Radio Continente Network in Spanish 1000 GMT 23 May 78 PA]

IRAQI AMBASSADOR LEAVES--Caracas, 18 May (VENPRES)--Hasan Kittani, Iraqi ambassador, today met with Venezuelan President Carlos Andres Perez at Miraflores Palace to bid him farewell. [Caracas Diplomatic Information Service in Spanish 1510 GMT 19 May 78 PA]

PRESIDENT'S USSR VISIT RECEIVES FAVORABLE COMMENT

PA021702Y Mexico City International Service in Spanish 0300 GMT 2 Jun 78 PA

[Text] The National Congress has affirmed that President Lopez-Portillo's trip enriched our doctrine of independence. It was a fruitful experience in many respects and stressed the reaffirmation of the principles of self-determination and nonintervention, Garcia Saenz, leader of the National Chamber of Manufacturers, affirmed.

In a speech reaffirming our independent stand as a nation forged by our own history, Mexican Senator Horacio (Labastida) yesterday praised the president's trip to the Soviet Union and Bulgaria before the members of the Mexican permanent commission. [as heard] [Words indistinct] by the permanent commission, his speech was received with general applause. He reiterated Mexico's decision to never again allow foreign events to suddenly affect our fatherland as they unfortunately did during the 19th century and at the beginning of the 20th century. He said that the Soviet Union [words indistinct] as occurred during President Lopez-Portillo's earlier visit to the United States. It was confirmed that the new thrust of our international (?policies) is achieving truly positive results.

Horacio (Labastida) said that during this visit no secret agreements or burdensome commitments were made. The visit served only to hold face-to-face discussions, point out differences and analyze mutual problems and concerns.

SALE OF MEXICAN OIL TO CUBA CONFIRMED

FL032142Y Mexico City INFORMEX in Spanish to ANSA Buenos Aires 2105 GMT 3 Jun 78 FL

[Text] Mexico City, 3 Jun (ANSA-INFORMEX)--Jorge Dias Serrano, director of Mexican Petroleum--PEMEX--and Patrimony and Industrial Development Secretary Jose Andres de Oteyza have confirmed here that Mexico will sell 70,000 barrels of petroleum to Cuba.

The petroleum shipped to Cuba will be charged to the Soviet Union. In addition it was announced that Mexican petroleum will be exported to Turkey, Greece, Yugoslavia and Romania by way of Bulgaria.

Government spokesmen affirmed that the agreements reached during the recent presidential trip to the USSR and Bulgaria were not announced during President Lopez-Portillo's tour "for diplomatic reasons."

NEW OIL SITE 'OF EXTRAORDINARY IMPORTANCE' DISCOVERED

FL032143Y Mexico City INFORMEX in Spanish to ANSA Buenos Aires 2107 GMT 3 Jun 78 FL

[Text] Mexico City, 3 Jun (ANSA-INFORMEX)--"First indications reveal reserves of extraordinary importance" in a new petroleum area which has been discovered by Mexican Petroleum technicians in the central regions of the country, located in the states of San Luis Potosi, Zacatecas and Durango.

The Mexico City morning paper UNO MAS UNO reports that the revelation is contained in a technical study to which the paper had access.

Another report obtained by UNO MAS UNO indicates that in the Mesozoic area of Chiapas-Tabasco in the Gulf of Mexico, 10 new fields have been discovered.

CHILE'S CARLOS ALTAMIRANO HOLDS NEWS CONFERENCE

PA021204Y Panama City Domestic Service in Spanish 2230 GMT 1 Jun 78 PA

[Excerpt] Carlos Altamirano, secretary general of the Chilean Socialist Party, forecast the upcoming fall of the Chilean Government due to the difficult internal situation, the grave social crisis and the militant solidarity of the international progressive movement.

Altamirano, who is visiting our country at the invitation of the Panamanian Students Federation, held a news conference at noon today to explain his country's political situation and the tasks of the revolutionary movement against the tyranny of Gen Augusto Pinochet, Chile's president. Regarding the current living conditions of the Chilean people and the overall crisis in his country, Altamirano said:

[begin Altamirano recording] Right now in Chile the unemployment rate is approximately 18 percent, while the highest rates of unemployment in our country previously amounted to 6 or 7 percent. Under the Popular Unity government, the unemployment rate was 3 percent. Today it is 18 percent. There is a total economic paralysis. Chile previously ranked third in Latin America as far as per capital income is concerned. Only Argentina and Venezuela surpassed Chile's per capita income. Today it ranks seventh in America regarding per capita income. In other words, there has been a sharp drop in income. The miserable situation of the large national majorities is great. Only a small group of large monopolists and businessmen is enjoying Pinochet's regime.

The country's debt is colossal. Private U.S. banks have supplied about $1.5 billion in the past 3 years. While it is true that the Carter administration has been pressuring for the enforcement of the most elementary human rights, which are violated and trampled upon in our country, private U.S. banks have provided the dictator with no less than $1.5 billion, on a short-term basis, of course, and at a very high interest rate. This augurs an even more dramatic situation for Chile's economy. [end recording]

On the other hand, the secretary general of the Chilean Socialist Party viewed as an international success the signing of the Torrijos-Carter canal treaty. In this regard, he said:

[begin Altamirano recording] Our party, and I dare to speak on behalf of all the parties of the Popular Unity, the Chilean left, sees as very positive the treaties signed by the Panamanian Government with the American Government. We feel that it is a step toward the decolonization of Panama and as Latin Americans we think that the cause of each Latin American people is a (?common) cause. Therefore, this is not just a major victory for the people of Panama, but it is a victory for us Chileans. Every advancement which involves the accomplishment of real independence, a real autonomy, the democratization of our people, liberation from the foreign yoke, is a victory for the large masses of workers and peasants of all America. [end recording]

COSTA RICA

PRESIDENT CARAZO SHRUGS OFF NICARAGUAN CRITICISM

PA031359Y San Jose Cadena de Emisoras Columbia in Spanish 1220 GMT 3 Jun 78 PA

[SERCANO Network]

[Text] President Rodrigo Carazo has discounted the importance of a news dispatch from Managua, Nicaragua, regarding the Council of Government's decision on Wednesday to pardon Sandinist guerrilla Plutarco Hernandez. According to the report, Plutarco Elias Hernandez Sancho, the guerrilla who was pardoned in Costa Rica, had been sentenced to 30 years in jail by a special court-martial in Nicaragua. President Carazo stated that he has no comment to make in this regard and that he considers the Nicaraguan criticism to be unimportant.

EL SALVADOR

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY SWORN IN; LEADERSHIP ELECTED

PA021426Y San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 1220 GMT 2 Jun 78 PA

[SERCANO Network]

[Text] The 54 deputies of the Salvadoran National Legislative Assembly were sworn in yesterday, Monday, and the new leadership was elected as follows: president, Jose Leandro Scheverria; first vice president, Romero Aurora; second vice president, Benjamin Wilfredo Navarrete; first secretaries, Jose Ernesto Jerez, Abel Salazar Rodezno and Mauricio Ernesto Velasco (Zelaya); second secretaries, Col Roberto Monge Ruiz, [name indistinct] Alfonso Salaverria and Roberto Salvador Menendez.

The legislature was elected for a 2-year period starting 1 June, according to the constitution.

GUATEMALA

STUDENTS, WORKERS DEMONSTRATE AGAINST PANZOS MASSACRE

PA021443Y Guatemala City Radio Fabulosa Network in Spanish 1220 GMT 2 Jun 78 PA

[SERCANO Network]

[Text] A demonstration in protest against the Panzos massacre was held yesterday despite heavy rain. At 1700 groups of students, workers and other people decided to stage a demonstration to protest the massacre of Panzos, a river port 200 km from Guatemala City. The demonstrators carried placards and signs demanding land for the peasants and said that the blood shed in Panzos would fertilize the land and the peasants' struggles. When the first downpour fell, the students first rallied at Plaza Italia and then sought refuge in the municipal palace. Later they went out into the streets in a protest march which was joined by many people.

The demonstrators intended to go to the national palace and light thousands of candles as a sign of mourning and protest over the killing of so many peasants in Alta Verapaz. However, they were unable to do this because of continued rain, which forced them to disperse, after announcing that another demonstration would be held.

As is known, peasants and soldiers clashed in Panzos, resulting in 100 dead, including adults, women and children and over 100 wounded.

MINISTER BLAMES GUERRILLAS, CLERGY FOR MASSACRE

PA031449Y Guatemala City Radio Fabulosa Network in Spanish 1220 GMT 3 Jun 78 PA

[SERCANO Network]

[Text] Defense Minister Otto Guillermo Spiegeler, referring to the massacre of peasants in Panzos, Alta Verapaz, said that the peasants, spurred on by extreme leftist elements who are members of the so-called Poor People's Guerrilla Army, attacked a military detachment. The minister said that clergymen were also involved. The defense minister added that the peasants were incited by missionaries, priests and members of all religious denominations.

These statements by the high-ranking official have made a strong impression on the people.

HONDURAS

NO IMPEDIMENT SEEN TO MELGAR CASTRO'S RUNNING FOR PRESIDENT

PA021921Y Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1545 GMT 2 Jun 78 PA

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 2 Jun (ACAN-EFE)--Honduran Government and Justice Minister Lt Col Juan Angel Arias said here today that there is no legal impediment to chief of state Gen Juan Alberto Melgar Castro's being nominated for president.

The military decided yesterday to call for constituent assembly elections on 20 April 1980 after a process of organization slated to begin in 1979 and based on an electoral law which allows the registration of new parties and the presentation of independent candidacies.

"Any political party can nominate General Melgar," the minister said. "It would be up to him to accept or not." The minister refrained from commenting on whether the army has given General Melgar the green light for running for president under a constitutional system. He did explain that, according to the constitution, Honduran military personnel cannot vote, but there is no law to prevent them from aspiring to important public posts.

NICARAGUA

SOMOZA COMMENTS ON U.S.-NICARAGUAN RELATIONS

PA031647Y Managua NOVEDADES in Spanish 25 May 78 p 42 PA

[Speech by Nicaraguan President Anastasio Somoza Debayle delivered before U.S.-Nicaraguan Chamber of Commerce at Intercontinental Hotel in Mamagua on 24 May 1978]

[Text] I have selected the subject of Nicaraguan-U.S. relations for this speech, placing special emphasis on the political aspects and leaving the commercial aspects for another time because I believe that political considerations, in one way or another, have an impact on Nicaragua's economy, especially in the area of investments.

The possibilities which Nicaragua's geographic and strategic configuration offered for the construction of an interoceanic canal, that is, the advantages derived from the San Juan River, Lake Nicaragua and the narrowness of the Isthmus of Rivas, made my country an important element in the fundamental objectives and plans of the United States.

As intensive trade began to develop between the Atlantic and the Pacific coasts of the United States, it became necessary for that country to develop the capacity to quickly mobilize its forces for defense, while at the same time permitting an exapnsion of the trade between the states of the union in the west and those in the east, by shortening the time required to go from one coast to the other.

The Nicaraguan Government of that period, after taking into consideration the global benefits that might accure from the construction of an interoceanic canal across our land, accepted the proposals of the United States, establishing a relationship based on mutual interest, which time and history turned into a lasting and growing relationship. This mutual interest strengthened the ties between Nicaragua and the United States, but was also the cause of disagreement between the two countries.

The importance of the canal through Nicaragua within theose strategic plans can be appreciated by taking into consideration that, even after the Panama Canal was constructed, the United States--within the framework of the Chamorro-Bryan Treaty--reserved the exclusive right to construct another interoceanic canal through Nicaragua. It was not until 1972, through the efforts of my government, that the Chamorro-Bryan Treaty was abrogated on 14 July, a date which was declared a national holiday due to its great significance for Nicaragua.

After the abrogation of the treaty, the relations between Nicaragua and the United States were very good. Proof of this was the massive amount of aid received by the Nicaraguan people after the earthquake and the financial aid which we received for development.

The Soviet penetration into the Caribbean following Fidel Castro's adventure, which culminated in the establishment of the communist empire in Cuba, again underlined Nicaragua's strategic importance. As a Caribbean country with a government philosophy based on democracy, the exercise of public freedoms and respect for human rights, concepts incompatible with the authoritarian system of Marxism, Nicaragua became the principal bastion for stopping Soviet expansion in Central America.

My country has demonstrated that it is an ally and friend of the United States. During World War II the United States had our backing and moral support when it decided to participate in that immense struggle for the preservation of the spiritual values of the Free World. After the war and during the so-called "cold war," we were always on the side of the United States in its efforts to prevent communist penetration in America, supporting its government in international and regional organizations.

It should be noted today that the people and Government of Nicaragua have supported President Carter's foreign policy statements, the fundamental emphasis of which is the promotion of respect for human rights.

The noble objective of the human rights campaign is admirable and well accepted on the continent, but the emotional and radical way it is being applied has transformed it into a useful weapon for international communism, the consequences of which have been detrimental to the continental fight against Cuban-Soviet expansionism.

This zealous attitude in the management of the human rights campaign has been interpreted by us, as well as by other countries, as intervention in the internal affairs of other states and has eleicited, understandably, a strong reaction in many soverign countries of America. This has precipitated the termination of mutual defense treaties, which are the basis of continental security, and with their disappearance countries are openly exposed to Castro-communist expansionism.

Those countries that openly opposed Soviet expanionism under U.S. leadership when this was the principal objective of the United States now find themselves in a terrible dilemma. Because of a change in policy following the Helsinki conference, these countries have been left without leadership and without the necessary U.S. support to continue the struggle.

Furthermore, due to the excessive zealousness of some U.S. officials in managing the human rights campaign, these same countries have been declared unworthy of receiving military and economic aid to continue that struggle against an enemy whose advances are increasingly ominous.

Viewing Nicaragua in this light, I can tell you that our anticommunist struggle will continue, and I know that the Nicaraguan people support my efforts to keep Nicaragua from becoming another Cuba.

We do not feel that we are alone because we know that the majority of the American people recognize the determination of the courageous Nicaraguan people not to surrender to communist expansionism and to prevent the creation of another enclave of Marxists in the heart of America.

The false accusations leveled against my government are part of an inept campaign wage by Nicaragua's opponents, who have been taken advantage of and used by international communism to obstruct relations between the United States and Nicaragua.

The international campaign waged against Nicaragua is not a campaign against anyone regime or person, but a very intelligently conceived maneuver that is an integral part of the ominous communist plan of attack on the Free World, in which not only the fate of the American continent or the Western world hang in the balance, but also of all humanity itself.

The Nicaraguan Constitution, which sets forth the highest ideals of our people, guarantees the free exercise of all human rights by all Nicaraguans.

Also, my country's successive governments have been signatories of various agreements and declarations, among them, the 1948 Universal Declaration on Human Rights of the third session of the United Nations, which I was honored to attend as a member of the Nicaraguan delegation.

It is within this context that our country received the new orientation of the U.S. foreign policy. We believe that the moral values that uphold democracies must prevail in the ideological struggle between the East and the West and between the Western democracies and the communist countries because these values correspond to the ideals of all free peoples.

Nonetheless, I confess that we have been concerned over the selective policy that the current administration of President Carter has been projecting in Latin America as regards this aspec of its foreign policy because on occasions its attitude, while tending to promote human rights as an absolute goal--which is in accordance with the American people's tradition--has permitted among certain Latin American governments the rebirth of a policy of intervention in the domestic affairs of other countries.

We Nicaraguans must recognize, nonetheless, that with or without law, today as in the past, the United States [has always been] a pioneer in the fulfillment of and respect for human rights.

Allow me to reiterate that Nicaragua is strategically located in the Caribbean. It has shown itself to be a bulwark against Soviet penetration of the area. It is a nation where representative democracy is practiced and where freedom of the press, freedom of thinking and all civil freedoms exist along with a system of free enterprise. But as a result of an international conspiracy against the Nicaraguan Government, it is sometimes violently attacked by Latin Americans in both the public and private sector because the press disseminates reports that are not in accordance with the Nicaraguan people's reality.

These are the types of actions or attitudes that have led to a cooling of relations between Nicaragua and the United States as well as with several countries in Latin America and other parts of the world.

Last year my administration was attacked by the U.S. Congress. A certain group of congressmen advocated the elimination of military and even economic aid to Nicaragua on the basis of testimony by well-known Nicaraguan communists. There was the question then of why we did not completely reject military aid, as other nations had done.

My response as consititutional president of Nicaragua was that we believed that in the end the truth would finally prevail, and the truth was such that the House of Representatives, which is the American people's highest representative body, rejected in toto the recommendations made by the appropriations subcommittee, because the legislators were able to discover and evaluate the truth of what was happening in Nicaragua.

The recent events allow us to be optimistic regarding relations between the United States and Nicaragua. We have observed the change in the U.S. Government's attitude, which has now authorized development loans that will be used mostly for the well-being of the majority of the people. This has also led several good friends of Nicaragua who have understood the fairness of our position to express themselves on our behalf.

The misunderstanding with the current administration is presently waning since relations between the United States and Nicarague have improved. In the future they will be more complicated as a result of Congress' attitude toward international relatons in the face of the position adopted by the U.S. executive branch. Every ruler must pay attention to this new aspect of U.S. Government operation because, in one way or another, it will affect its relations with the other countries of the world.

My country's foreign policy is aimed at the maintenance of good relations with all countries.

We believe, nonetheless, that these relations are beneficial when based on mutual respect, particularly as regards each state's sovereignty and the idiosyncracies of each nation and its people.

For many years the people of Nicaragua and the United States have maintained friendly relations. Whenever differences arose, we resorted to dialog, in the belief that once the facts had been examined, understanding and cooperation would result. The developments I mentioned earlier renew that trust.

As ruler and supreme chief of the armed forces, I can declare, with a sense of patriotic satisfaction, that for the first time in our history 50 years have elapsed without a civil war in Nicaragua. That must be attributed mainly to the lofty goals for which the National Guard was created with the timely cooperation of the friendly U.S. Government and to the aid that the United States has given us to speed up our economic development, which is a key element in the maintenance of peace.

Nonetheless, I cannot deny that, during this considerable length of time in our nation's development, there have been criminal attacks and belligerent incursions sponsored mostly as of late by Fidel Castro's communist and autocratic regime. But the Nicaraguan people and their undying interest in peace have defended Nicaragua with courage and devotion, always maintaining national sovereignty and freedom inviolable.

From 1929 to this date, the Nicaraguan Government has been popularly elected, something that should make all Nicaraguans proud. We hope that in the future this delegation of power through representative democracy will continue to shine.

The interests of Nicaraguans and Americans are similar--to live in peace and enjoy our freedoms and possessions.

In the future those interests will occasionally clash, but in the end, our goal--"democracy"--will lead us to truly close relations. Thank you very much.

NOVEDADES SAYS SANDINIST PARDONED OUT OF FEAR

PA021952Y Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1730 GMT 2 Jun 78 PA

[Text] Managua, 2 Jun (ACAN-EFE)--The progovernment daily NOVEDADES said today in Managua that the Costa Rican Government pardoned the "mercenary" Plutarco Elias Hernandez Sancho because it was "afraid." The government headed by Rodrigo Carazo Odio in a recent cabinet meeting pardoned the 16-year sentence against the Sandinist guerrilla.

NOVEDADES, which is owned by President Somoza, notes that a few days ago Carazo Odio said he would never permit Costa Rican territory to become a sanctuary for extremists to attack a neighboring state. However, the newspaper added, a few days later "the Costa Rican Government virtually declared war against Nicaragua by pardoning the mercenary." The newspaper stated that the decision reached by Carazo Odio in a cabinet meeting indicates "a lack of respect for the Costa Rican Supreme Court of Justice." It added that "a government which bases its decisions on the threats of extremist sectors and acts out of fear has no right to govern a free people."

Plutarco Elias Hernandez Sancho, the guerrilla pardoned in Costa Rica, was sentenced to 30 years imprisonment in Nicaragua by a court-martial for his "clandestine political and military activities."

UNIVERSITY EMPLOYEES, PROFESSORS END STRIKE

PA050045Y Paris AFP in Spanish 1856 GMT 4 Jun 78 PA

[Text] Managua, 4 June (AFP)--It was announced today that the 1,050 professors and employees of Managua's Autonomous University concluded their 3-week old strike last night after receiving salary increases. Administrative employees accepted a 15-percent salary increase, while the professors received a (?10-percent) increase.

According to a spokesman for the strikers, classes at the university will resume tomorrow, Monday.

THREE HOMEMADE BOMBS EXPLODE IN GRANADA

PA031513Y Paris AFP in Spanish 1011 GMT 3 Jun 78 PA

[Text] Managua, 2 June (AFP)--It was reported here today that three homemade bombs exploded in Granada, 45 km east of this capital, injuring one person and causing some property damage. In addition, 29 high school students were arrested briefly in Leon, 90 km west of Managua, after police dispersed a demonstration by students of the two main high schools in the city.

PEASANTS TAKE OVER MANAGUA CURIA TO HIGHLIGHT DEMANDS

PA031348Y Managua Radio Corporacion in Spanish 1220 GMT 3 Jun 78 PA

[SERCANO Network]

[Text] Peasants from (Sonona) and (Tirama) in the western sector of the country yesterday occupied the curia in Managua to demand that the Agrarian Institute heed the demands for land which they have been making for several years. The occupation took place yesterday. Apparently, the peasants will meet today with Archbishop Miguel Obando y Bravo, who wishes to be informed of the peasants' position and determine how he can help them.

AUTHORITIES TRYING TO LOCATE CLANDESTINE FSLN RADIO

PA031936Y Paris AFP in Spanish 1903 GMT 3 Jun 78 PA

[Text] Managua, 3 June (AFP)--National radio director Col Alberto Luna today announced here that authorities are trying to locate a clandestine radio station of the Sandinist National Liberation Front [FSLN]. According to the military chief, the station has been operating on Nicaraguan territory for the past few weeks, but with reduced power.

'GROUP OF TWELVE' EXILES WILL RETURN TO NICARAGUA

PA040244Y Paris AFP in Spanish 0116 GMT 4 Jun 78 PA

[Text] Managua, 3 June (AFP)--The members of the so-called "group of 12" now in exile in Costa Rica have announced their decision to return to their country in defiance of prison sentences imposed on them on charges of sedition, it was learned here today. "The 12," among whom are included industrialists Felipe Mantica and Emilio Baltodano, writer Sergio Ramirez, priest Fernando Cardenal and others, supported a change of government in Nicaragua last February. LA PRENSA said that it received a report from "the 12" in which they claim their inalienable right to live in Nicaragua in spite of the prison sentences handed down against them. They claimed to have the support of the people to return and form a broad opposition front against President Anastasio Somoza's regime. The group favors the inclusion of the Sandinist National Liberation Front in the government.

CASTRO PRESIDES OVER CENTRAL COMMITTEE MEETING

FL031746Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1045 GMT 3 Jun 78 FL

[Text] The sixth plenum of the PCC Central Committee has been held with our Commander in Chief Fidel Castro presiding. A Politburo report on the work done by the party in 1977 was approved. The conferees also reviewed preparations for the 11th World Youth and Students Festival and agreed to congratulate the whole nation for the extraordinary effort being undertaken to insure a successful youth event. The Central Committee members agreed to donate 1 day's salary to the 11th festival funds, following the example of the work centers which have already made this beautiful contribution.

They also discussed and approved the Central Committee regulation which sets norms for the activities of the Central Committee plenum, the Politburo, the Secretariat and the Central Committee auxiliary apparatus. They also approved the regulations of the national and provincial committees for control and supervision, their organic structures and those of their respective auxiliary apparatus.

In his concluding remarks, Commander in Chief Fidel Castro discussed in detail the main tasks the party will undertake in the next few months and made an extensive analysis of the present international situation. The plenum ended with the approval of the report presented by Fidel.

The resolution on the 11th festival approved at the sixth plenum of the Central Committee points out the role played by our people in the various economic, political and cultural activities and congratulates workers, youths, students, pioneers, military men, Committees for the Defense of the Revolution--CDR--members, Federation of Cuban Women--FMC--members and the National Association of Small Farmers--ANAP--for their efforts.

TV COMMENTATOR SCORES NATO MEETING IN WASHINGTON

FL031548Y Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 3 Jun 78 FL

[Armando Lopez Junco commentary]

[Text] The North Atlantic Treaty Organization, better known by its acronym NATO, on Wednesday ended 2 days of deliberations in Washington after agreeing to an astronomical increase of almost $100 billion for purchases and modernization of its arsenal for the current decade. The reason put forth by the leaders of the bellicose organization is that its counterpart, the Warsaw Pact, is increasing its military resources in Europe and threatening a powerful attack against the NATO countries, which call themselves Western democracies.

In his inaugural remarks North American President James Carter called on his allies to strengthen the organization's military power to counteract a supposed Soviet threat and a presumed power imbalance favoring the Warsaw Pact. He did not limit himself to this exhortation. Carter stated that NATO's actions should not be limited to Europe, but should be extended to other continents to protect the interests of the Western countries.

This is a clear reference to Washington's preoccupation with the advances made by the liberation movements in Africa and for the solidarity help that is lent them by Cuba, the Soviet Union and other socialist countries which the imperialists and their leaders label "interference in African affairs."

NATO, established in 1949 on the innitiative of the United States, presently consists of 15 countries: the United States, Great Britain, France, the FRG, Italy, Canada, Norway, the Netherlands, Belgium, Portugal, Greece, Turkey, Denmark, Luxembourg and Iceland. The alleged motive for its establishment was the protection of Europe, which was devastated in World War II by a powerful enemy. The real reason was to continue a policy aimed at destruction of the first socialist nation and the European popular democracies born after the war. NATO was, in reality, the postwar continuation of the policy of eliminating socialism which, just as in the period before the war, led the United States and its allies to arm Nazi Germany. Nevertheless, it is history that Hitler, armed to be sent to destroy the USSR, turned his weapons on his backers and conquered a great part of Western Europe. It was only in facing the USSR that he suffered most ignominious defeat when the first socialist state defeated nazism at the cost of over 20 million of its sons.

NATO, conceived for the same purpose, armed a string of aggressive bases around the socialist countries which, for their part, saw themselves forced to forge their own defense alliance. In May 1955 the Warsaw Pact was established, made up of the USSR and seven other socialist countries. From that time until now, there have been, always at the Warsaw Pact's initiative, 13 rounds of talks which have included more than 150 meetings between the two organizations with repeated proposals from the socialist countries for a freeze in the arms race to begin with, to be followed by a progressive reduction in armaments. NATO has not responded positively to any of these proposals.

This Atlantic Treaty meeting in Washington ended without the United States achieving all of its proposals. Among them was the forming of NATO members into a so-called security force for Africa which would be in charge of preventing the advance of the liberation movements and protecting the interests of monopolies which are still exploiting African riches. But the proposal remains alive. Representatives from France, Great Britain, the FRG, Belgium and Canada will meet on Monday in Paris to agree to new interventionist actions in Africa on the pretext of what they call "African security." They plan military actions similar to the ones undertaken by French and Belgian paratroopers in Zaire, with U.S. logistical support, wherever spurious neocolonial interests are endangered.

It is a sinister coincidence that the representatives of bellicose NATO have held their meeting in Washington at the time the UN special session on disarmament is being held in New York. CPSU General Secretary Leonid Brezhnev said in a speech this week in Prague that some of the participants at the NATO meeting, enroute to the meeting or returning to their countries, went to the UN special session and made beautiful statements on disarmament. And at the NATO council, Brezhnev added, without catching their breath, they studied plans for new military preparations for many years to come.

In reality these are the two faces of imperialism: words of peace and acts of aggression --falacious remarks by Mr Carter on human rights and brutal suppression of the same by his support for apartheid, Zionism, colonialism, neocolonialism, racism and the exploitation of underdeveloped countries.

HAVANA COMMENTARY EXAMINES RACISM IN UNITED STATES

FL021127Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1045 GMT 2 Jun 78 FL

[Revolutionary Armed Forces and Interior Ministry combatants political information program commentary]

[Text] Racism is one of the principal evils which generate the system of man's exploitation of man. Its practice in the United States reaches high levels. At the present time the unemployment rate among blacks in that country amounts to 25.3 percent. Forty percent of black youths cannot find jobs. Almost 60 percent of the black population live in ghettos. The income of a black family is equivalent to one-half of that of a white family.

From the political viewpoint, blacks hold only 1 percent of the permanent jobs in public administration although the black population represents more than 10 percent of the total population. The so-called national minorities are discriminated against and oppressed in an official and institutionalized manner. Racial hatred is manifested as a way of life within the North American society through the action of racist organizations such as the Klu Klux Klan.

The sinister plot between the racists and the Federal Bureau of Investigation--FBI--which culminated in the assassination of Martin Luther King, the criminal farce with which they tried to destroy communist leader Angela Davis, the false charges against the young civil rights fighter (John Harvey), and the sinister maneuver with which they tried to silence the Wilmington 10 are concrete examples of how human rights are violated in the so-called Free World.

These characteristics of the U.S. way of life are not kept within the domestic environment; they are taken outside U.S. borders with the practice of racism in foreign policy. An example is the Washington government's aid to racist governments throughout the world, especially those operating in the Middle East and in the southern part of the African Continent.

In violation of resolutions adopted by the United Nations against the racist governments of Rhodesia and South Africa, the United States and other Western powers are maintaining and increasing their investments in those countries and helping them economically, politically and militarily. Furthermore, the United States has launched a joint campaign with Britain to achieve a negotiated peace in the southern cone of Africa which would ignore the interests of the African majorities, allow the Salisbury and Pretoria racists to continue ruling, and assure the transnational corporations freedom of action in those territories.

But the struggle by the oppressed peoples of Africa for their liberty and independence is increasing while the proletariat and the so-called national minorities within the imperialist monster itself are struggling for their rights and more just standards of living. The people's national liberation struggle, the class battle that is being waged in the bourgeois society, the demands for the respect for human rights and the development and strengthening of the socialist community are contributing to accelerating the crisis in the capitalist system. The historic projection of human society toward socialism is inevitable because it is the only way to eradicate man's exploitation of man and racial discrimination.

PEREZ HERRERO MEETS WITH MPLA DELEGATION

FL021032Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1019 GMT 2 Jun 78 FL

[Text] PCC Central Committee Secretariat member Antonio Perez Herrero has met in Havana City with a delegation headed by (Luis Felipe Pizarro), chief of the political and ideological training department of the MPLA-Labor Party Central Committee of the People's Republic of Angola. Matters concerned with experiences gained by the two parties in developing the teaching of Marxism-Leninism to party members were discussed during the fraternal meeting.

The Angolan delegation discussed the development and consolidation of political schools at various levels. It said that this visit to our country will be very productive for this work.

During its stay in Cuba, the delegation of the MPLA-Labor Party completed a comprehensive schedule of visits which indluded PCC schools in several provinces.

ETHIOPIAN MILITARY DELEGATION VISITING CUBA

PA040217Y Paris AFP in Spanish 2037 GMT 3 Jun 78 PA

[Text] Havana, 3 Jun (AFP)--A delegation of the Ethiopian Provisional Military Administrative Council headed by permanent member Maj Yehwalashet Girma is now visiting Cuba.

This is the first visit to Cuba by Ethiopian leaders since the departure of Chairman Mengistu Haile Mariam this past April.

MOZAMBIQUE MINISTER VISITS CONSTRUCTION SITES

FL032213Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2035 GMT 3 Jun 78 FL

[Text] Julio Carrilho, Mozambican public works and housing minister and FRELIMO Central Committee member, has visited the Alamar housing project accompanied by his Cuban counterpart Jose A. Lopez Moreno. Carrillho, who is also deputy to the Mozambican People's Assembly, was given a detailed briefing on the modern urban zone being built to the east of Havana and the story of its establishment at the end of 1971 at the initiative of Commander in Chief Fidel Castro. The Mozambican minister, accompanied by the delegation he heads, then visited the pioneers and congresses palaces construction projects and the extension of the Maximo Gomez thermoelectric plant and the Rene Arcay cement plant located in Mariel.

Since its arrival in our country, the Mozambican delegation has held talks with high Cuban officials within the framework of an intergovernmental cooperation agreement between Cuba and Mozambique.

CHILEAN SOCIALIST DELEGATION ARRIVES FROM PANAMA

FL032331Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 3 Jun 78 FL

[Text] A Chilean Socialist Party delegation headed by its secretary general, Carlos Altamirano, has arrived in our country from Panama. Manuel Pineiro Losada, PCC Central Committee member and chief of its American Department, and other Central Committee members were at Jose Marti International Airport to welcome the delegation. The Chilean delegation also includes Rolando Calderon, member of the Chilean Socialist Party Central Committee and of its executive committee in exile.

BLAS ROCA, VILMA ESPIN ATTEND RECEPTION

FL021024Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1017 GMT 2 Jun 78 FL

[Excerpt] Blas Roca Calderio, member of the PCC Politburo and president of the National People's Government Assembly, has attended a reception given by Vilma Espin, chairman of the National Assembly Permanent Committee for Servicing Women and Children, on the occasion of the inauguration of the Cuba-UNICEF-Finland project. The reception also was attended (Charles Egher) for UNICEF and (Tom Gromber) of the Finnish Foreign Ministry, representing the Government of Finland.

The first hot food processing plant for children at child day care centers was inaugurated yesterday, thereby initiating a program partially financed by Finland with UNICEF cooperation.

JAMAICA

VENEZUELAN PRESIDENT MEETS WITH MANLEY, ADDRESSES PARLIAMENT

PA030012Y Caracas Radio Continente Network in Spanish 2050 GMT 2 Jun 78 PA

[Text] President Carlos Andres Perez is on the first day of his visit to Jamaica. He has already met with the Jamaican Prime Minister and has spoken before the Jamaican Parliament.

His meeting with Jamaican Prime Minister Michael Manley took place at the Jamaica House, the presidential residence, where the two leaders lunched together. In the afternoon, the Venezuelan president addressed the Jamaican Parliament. His speech was broadcast to the country. During his meeting with the prime minister and in his parliament speech, President Perez noted the importance of cooperation among Third World nations.

The Venezuelan president will meet with the Jamaican prime minister again before returning to Venezuela tomorrow. Journalistic sources have stated that President Perez will touch on economic matters of great importance, such as an increase of oil sales to Jamaica.

Speech to Parliament

PA042009Y Caracas Diplomatic Information Service in Spanish 1210 GMT 4 Jun 78 PA

[Text of speech by Venezuelan President Carlos Andres Perez to the Jamaican Parliament in Kingston on 2 June]

[Excerpts] Caracas, 3 Jun (VENPRES)--Venezuelan President Carlos Andres Perez gave the following speech yesterday to the Jamaican Parliament:

Mr President, members of the Jamaican Parliament:

It has been a signal honor for me to be invited to this parliament which legitimately represents the people of Jamaica. We find here a people irrevocable determined to struggle within the Third World for a new international economic order and, regionally, for a Latin American integration which includes these new and vigorous Caribbean nations which emerged from the fortunate collapse of colonialism.

I appreciate the warm welcome accorded me by the government, parliament and people on this happy occasion of my visit to express Venezuela's solidarity with Jamaica which is struggling for a worthy position among the nations of the world and the welfare of all its citizens. We know that Jamaica belongs to the community of English-speaking Caribbean nations which have their own defined national and cultural identity and are obliged to protect and strengthen it. Latin American integration cannot be understood without including the new nations of the Caribbean.

Our foreign policy is open to all the people of the world. We look with hopeful interest to the birth and strengthening of these fraternal Caribbean nations. We share our belief in democracy and a universal view of the problems of the world. We repudiate the bloc policy and proclaim our belief in the indivisibility of international solidarity, interdependence and the universal responsibility of great nations to attend to the problems of all humanity. Without wanting to irritate anybody, we want our voice to be heard on an equal level with others.

We feel committed to cooperation with the Caribbean. We believe that this is an obligation which must be shared by other nations of the region and the industrialized nations of the world. We have been enthusiastic and full-time promoters of this international obligation toward the new nations of Latin America.

We, the developing nations, are tired of the fallacy of what has been called aid or international economic cooperation plagued by conditions and based on the orthodox concepts of the International Monetary Fund. We have been exploited. The industrialized world refuses to accept this reality which we do not broach with hostility or with relatiatory intent. We limit ourselves to expressing easily proven realities. We want a world with international justice where interdependence acquires an essentially ethical value, with balance and equity, in which equal value will be given to both basic products or raw materials and the labor of Third World nations and the capital goods and technological transference of developed nations. As we see it, interdependence means communication in both directions.

If we believe in the right to demand, it is because we are in a condition to give. The development and welfare of industrialized nations is not possible without our markets or our basic products, nor is our development possible without the markets of industrialized nations or the transference of capital or technology.

It is not a question of demanding sacrifices from nations which have achieved their welfare in great part by buying raw materials cheaply from us and selling us expensively manufactured goods and technology. The sacrifices have been made by us. We know and have paid this price. That is why we do not intend or want to demand it of others. It is to the interest of developed nations to attain the objectives of the new order. To understand this, it suffices to reflect upon the meaning of the Marshall Plan, not only for a Europe destroyed by war but for the United States which conceived and carried it out.

In our relations with international capital, we have been serious and responsible. We have demanded and will demand only the sovereign management of our natural resources and economic policies within a concept of solidarity and cooperation.

A new international economic order based on justice, interdependence and global solidarity is not possible unless developed nations understand their worldwide obligations and overcome the idea that they are sacrificing their wealth at the expense of their taxpayers. Unemployment and the signs of recession in the large nations and their monetary instability are the best proof that alone those of the north will not be able to reestablish their economic stability.

We of the south inevitably suffer the consequences of this without being able to contribute to alleviating the imminent and certain threat that hangs over the world because we are not given the opportunity to strengthen our purchasing capacities and thereby promote an exchange which would revive and invigorate the exhausted economies of the industrial nations. Much less should we hear complaints and haughty language from countries governed by social democratic ideologies which claim to be and should be a worldwide philosophy of development which begins with the principle that every human being has a right to wellbeing and the recognition of the need to create a new international division of labor that will open guaranteed prospects of development to the Third World.

World democracy should generate sufficient force to orient and facilitate the movement toward this new order based on international justice. They should do this in order to demonstrate that democracy is effective, not only to refute criticism and growing skepticism but also to test the will to cooperate of the countries of the Soviet orbit, which so far have not participated or contributed in any way to the solution of the north-south problems but continuously criticize the democratic world's inability to strengthen the economies of the developing nations.

It is not the intention of developing nations that industrialized nations give to us more than they can and should give. It is a question of the international economic system's being able to produce guaranteed opportunity for us to generate the resources necessary to reach the goals of our development so each nation can assume its responsibilities in the concert of the world. Unfortunately, this is not what is happening. Over 100 nations of the Third World find themselves in a difficult crisis that is increasingly aggravating internal and external tensions. At the same time, they see no evidence of a political will to create conditions favorable for dialog and understanding.

One of the most pressing problems is that of the developing nations' external debt. No effort has been made to analyze the elements which have caused it and which undermine all prospects for development.

Our slogan is integration. We must speak with one voice to wage the head-on battle for the creation of the new international economic order which opens guaranteed prospects for our nations.

We observe with growing concern that instead of seeing an improvement in the terms of exchange with industrialized nations, we find they are growing worse and worse. There is no sign of the slightest interest in reversing this tendency, which is now dangerously affirmed with the renewed appearance of protectionist clauses which are detrimental to the opportunities of the Third World countries to export their products. This is a discriminatory practice that is highly injurious to the economies of our nations.

We are building our future in a present full of anticipation and uncertainty. The time has come to raise our collective consciousness. We accept our remote and recent past without complexes. We accept, without trying to change the truth, that events happened as they really did.

We have faith. Jamaica and Venezuela merge in the Third World observing a creed of unity. The large nations will have to understand us. Their immense world will not be sufficient for them. In the end, they will understand that they not only need other nations but that the dramatic present world situation calls for a new concept of solidarity, interdependence and universal fraternity. This is the contribution to be made by the Third World in future world decisions.

Receive my words with fraternal affection and great Venezuelan feeling for Jamaica, the great and good.

NORWAY GRANTS LINE OF CREDIT TO JAMAICA

FL021420Y Kingston DAILY GLEANER in English 27 May 78 pp 1, 19 FL

[Excerpt] Jamaica and Norway yesterday officially signed a J$25 million line of credit for the purchase of capital equipment, technology and know-how from Norway by both the republic sector and the private sector.

Simultaneous with the signing of the export credit facility both countries also signed a shipping agreement which will provide for the training both locally and abroad of seagoing and shipping management personnel.

Prime Minister Michael Manley and visiting Norwegian Prime Minister the Hon. Odvar Nordli signed the shipping agreement while the governor of the Bank of Jamaica, Mr. Herbert Walker, and the general manager of the Financing and Export Credit Institute of the Norwegian Commercial Banks Limited, (Ekport Finans), Mr. Arne Valder, signed for the credit.

The line of credit was offered to Jamaica in December at the first meeting of the Norwegian/ Jamaica joint commission in Kingston.

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